

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The final Office Action of April 18, 2005 (hereinafter the Action) has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 20, 21, 24 and 26-28 remain pending and claims 1-19, 22, 23, and 25 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and arguments made herein.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-5, 10-12, 20, 21 and 23-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by *Poole*, "Mac OS 8.5 Bible" (hereinafter *Poole*). The rejection of claims 1-5, 10-12, and 23-25 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants assert that *Poole* does not teach or suggest every element of each of the claims rejected under Section 102(a). A claim is anticipated only if each and every feature in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently, in a single reference. MPEP § 2131.01. Here, several features of the claims are found lacking in the *Poole* reference. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be removed and the claims allowed. Some of the missing features from the *Poole* reference are outlined below.

Claim 20

Amended independent claim 20 provides:

20. In an operating system configured to support a plurality of file types, a method for displaying a plurality of files, a first file having a first file type and a second file having a second file type, wherein a set of relevant textual properties of each file type is stored by the operating system, the method comprising:

- receiving a first user selection of a first textual property for the first file type;
- receiving a second user selection of a second textual property for the second file type, wherein the second textual property is different from the first textual property;
- displaying a first value of the selected first textual property at a location relative to a first graphical representation of the first file; and
- displaying a second value of the selected second textual property at the same location relative to a second graphical representation of the second file.

The Action alleges that *Poole* teaches every element of claim 20. For claim elements similar to “the second textual property is different from the first textual property,” the Action continues to allege that *Poole* “teaches, on page 84, the file size not being listed for folder files as it was listed for other files.” The Action further alleges that “folder items further being distinguished by including a property that tells if the item is expandable.” These statements are incorrect in at least three ways.

First, an item which is a folder does not teach or suggest a file type. The file folder displayed in the figures of *Poole* is a representation of a directory, not a file. It is not possible to classify a folder as a file type. Folders and directories store files of various file types (in addition to subfolders and subdirectories), but they are not a type of file themselves.

Second, the expandable property which the Action alleges teaches a differing property for folders is not a textual property. *Poole* displays on page 131 a graphical triangle next to expandable folders. This triangle is an icon and not a textual property of the alleged folder file type as called for in amended claim 20.

Third, unlike amended claim 20, *Poole* discloses the display of the same property with items having differing values for that same property. Contrary to the Action’s assertion that the file size is not “listed for folder files as it was listed for other files,” *Poole* in fact does display a value in the file size slot, albeit a value of “-”. For the second textual property to be different from the first textual property, it actually has to be a different property displayed in the same relative location. If folders were indeed considered to be the second file type, they would have to show a different property (e.g., total number of files, or directory permissions) in the same

relative location in order to show that the “the second textual property is different from the first textual property” as called for in amended claim 20.

In view of the above, *Poole* does not teach every element of amended claim 20, and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and the claim allowed. Furthermore, Applicants assert that claims 21, 24, and 26, which depend from claim 20, are allowable for at least the same reasons as their base claim.

Claim 27

Independent claim 27 provides:

27. A method for displaying items in a computer operating system, the method comprising the steps of:

- associating a first item type with a first property;
- associating a second item type with a second property, wherein the first property is different from the second property and not associated with the second item type;
- displaying a listing of a plurality of items, wherein the plurality of items comprises a first item of the first item type and a second item of the second item type;
- displaying for each item in the listing a graphical representation, a name, and a slot;
- displaying in the slot of the first item a textual value for the first property of the first item; and
- displaying in the slot of the second item a textual value for the second property of the second item.

The Action alleges that *Poole* teaches “the first property is different from the second property and not associated with the second item type,” in Figure 5-5 on page 84. According to this alleged teaching, a file having a file size constitutes a first item type with a first property, whereas a folder having either no file size or an expandable triangle constitutes a second item type with a second property.

Notwithstanding the action’s allegation, *Poole* does not teach “displaying in the slot of the first item a textual value for the first property of the first item; and displaying in the slot of the second item a textual value for the second property of the second item.” The Action alleges that this is taught on page 131 of *Poole*, where “the user placing a specific label (textual label) property in a slot, so that each item independently may have a textual label displayed in the slot

adjacent to it.” This allegation is incorrect however, since the Action has already established that the first item type is files and the first property is file size, and the second item type is folders and the second property is either no file size or an expandable triangle. *Poole* in page 131 or elsewhere does not even show a folder with either no file size or an expandable triangle. Even if it did show a folder, *Poole* would still not show, teach or suggest all the elements of claim 27.

First of all, files having a file size and folders having no file size do not constitute two separate properties. Rather, these are different values of the *same property*. To show the subject feature of claim 27, *Poole* would have to show two items having separate item types with textual values for *different* properties, each being displayed in a slot, and each accompanied by a name and a graphical representation of the item.

Furthermore, even assuming, but not admitting that a graphical expandable triangle could be considered as the second property of the second item type, *Poole* still does not show every element of claim 27. Notably, the expandable triangle is *not a textual value* of the second property of the second item. Once again, *Poole* needs to show two items having separate item types with *textual values* for different properties, each being displayed in a slot, and each accompanied by a name and a graphical representation of the item. *Poole* does not teach every element of claim 27, and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and the claim allowed.

Claim 28

Dependent claim 28 provides:

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the first item type comprises a first file format and the second item type comprises a second file format.

The Action alleges that the figures and text on page 131 of *Poole* teaches all the features of claim 28, specifically noting “the one type being a folder format capable of sorting a plurality of other items, and the second type being an item format with a specific size.” Applicants respectfully disagree.

First, as stated above, a folder does not teach a first file format. The file folder displayed on page 131 of *Poole* is a representation of a directory, not a file. It is not possible to classify a

Application No.: 09/832,966
Amendment dated June 9, 2005
Reply to final Office Action of April 18, 2005

folder as a file type. Folders and directories store files of various file types (in addition to subfolders and subdirectories), but they are not a type of file themselves.

Second, the capability of sorting a plurality of other items is not a first property of a first file format. Even if such a capability were to be interpreted as the first property, it is not possible to show a textual value of such a property in a slot, accompanied by a graphical representation and a name.

In view of the above, *Poole* does not teach every element of claim 28, and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and the claim allowed.

CONCLUSION

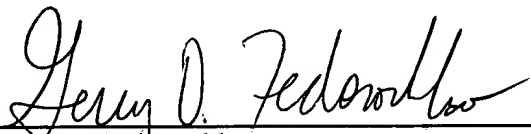
All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request prompt notification of the same. If any fees are required for this submission, or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: June 9, 2005

By:



Gary D. Fedbrochko
Reg. No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Tel: (202) 824-3000
Fax: (202) 824-3001